

**Probation Committee  
Judicial Conference of Indiana**

**October 15, 2004**

**Minutes**

The Probation Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana met at the Indiana Judicial Center on October 15, 2004.

1. **Members present.** The following members of the committee were present: Thomas Perrone, Mark Stoner, Liz Pease, Thomas Gray, Jerome Kearns, Wayne Steele, David Kiely, Thomas Lett and John Surbeck, chair.
2. **Staff present.** Jane Seigel, Jenny Bauer, Bob Champion, and Michelle Goodman provided staff assistance to the committee.
3. **Approval of minutes.** The July 2004 minutes were approved.
4. **“Angel” demonstration.** Lindsey Borschel of JTAC gave a demonstration to the committee on the use of the on-line collaboration tool called “Angel”. Ms. Borschel explained that “Angel” can assist judicial officers with committee work in place of traveling to Indianapolis for a meeting. Ms. Borschel demonstrated several of the features of “Angel” and offered to train the committee on using the system. The committee agreed that “Angel” would be a useful tool for committee work and scheduled a training session for November 16, 2004.
5. **Sentencing Policy Study Commission.** Jane Seigel reported that the Sentencing Policy Study Commission was very active throughout the summer. The work of the Commission was somewhat thrown off track as a result of the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in Blakely, but a main topic of study was the efficiency of having separate systems for probation, parole and community corrections. Ms. Seigel also reported that the Criminal Justice Institute did a survey on sentencing issues and decisions for use by the Commission. CJI presented the survey findings to the Commission recently. Ms. Seigel stated that she expects the Commission to recommend legislation in its final report, and she also expects the Commission to get an extension.
6. **Pre-trial services.** Jenny Bauer distributed a packet of information on pre-trial probation services given to her by Judge David Chidester of Porter County. Ms. Bauer explained that Porter County’s judges have been working with one of their local legislators to draft legislation creating a pre-trial

probation services fee. Porter County reports that its probation department has been providing pre-trial probation services to offenders, but it is a financial since pre-trial fees are not authorized by statute. Judge Stoner stated that Marion County is having a dispute over who is authorized to provide pre-trial services. The committee requested that Ms. Bauer contact Judge Chidester to find out if he would like committee action on this issue.

7. **Update on Interstate Compact.** Jane Seigel reported that the National Commission for the Interstate Compact meets in Atlanta October 25-27. The National Commission will consider proposed amendments to the Compact rules. Ms. Seigel also reported that the Judicial Center has assigned incoming and outgoing cases between two people and the set-up is working well.
8. **Advisory Board update.** Jenny Bauer reported that the Probation Officers Advisory Board met on October 12<sup>th</sup> to set goals for 2005. The Advisory Board is looking for guidance from the Probation Committee on any future projects. Ms. Bauer also reported that the Advisory Board completed its draft of Recommended Juvenile Sex Offender Probation Conditions. She distributed copies of the draft recommended conditions and stated that the Probation Committee needs to approve them before being presented to the Judicial Conference Board of Directors. The committee members agreed to review the recommended conditions and discuss again in November.
9. **IORP/Risk Assessment Task Force.** Jenny Bauer distributed the first report from the Indiana Offender Reintegration Project. She explained that the Project is a state-wide initiative of Governor Kernan's to implement the National Institute of Correction's model for transitioning high risk offenders from prison to the community. The first report is a "gap analysis" that compares Indiana's system to the model and describes the gaps between the two. The Indiana Risk Assessment Task Force was born out of NIC recommendation for universal risk assessment, and is also a state-wide initiative.
10. **Other business.** The Committee discussed the issue of legislative encroachment on probation user fees.
11. **Next meeting.** The next meeting of the Probation Committee is scheduled for January 14, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Bauer  
Staff Attorney

